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#### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for interfacing with a device connected to a set-top box comprising:

accessing a graphical user interface (GUI) on a partitioned screen coupled to said set-top box using a remote control unit;

selecting said connected device by accessing a menu in said GUI using the remote control unit; and

sending a signal from said set-top box to said connected device wherein said signal causes said connected device to enter a new state.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said new state is an on state.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said new state is an off state.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said connected device is a light.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said connected device is a heater or an air conditioner.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said connected device is a media player, ~~such as a DVD or a VCR.~~

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7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said connected device is an audio player, ~~such as a juke box or a radio.~~
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said connected device is a security device, ~~such as a camera.~~
9. (Currently amended) A method for interfacing with a device connected to a set-top box comprising:
- accessing a graphical user interface (GUI) on a partitioned screen coupled to said set-top box using a remote control unit;
  - defining an event in said GUI;
  - defining one or more rules related to said event in said GUI;
  - determining if said event has occurred;
  - applying said rules to said device with said set-top box, if said event has occurred.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said step of determining further comprises using said connected device to determine the occurrence of said event.
11. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said step of determining further comprises using said set-top box to determine the occurrence of said event.
12. (Original) A method for interfacing with a device connected to a set-top box comprising:

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accessing a graphical user interface (GUI) on a partitioned screen coupled to said set-top box;

defining a layout for a room in said GUI;

defining a location for a connected device in said layout using said GUI; and

receiving an indication in said GUI at said location in said layout, when said connected device changes a state.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said connected device is a light.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said state is an on state.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said state is an off state.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein said event is a time, further comprising:

activating a clock in said set-top box; and

determining when said clock reaches said time.

17. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said event is a motion at a location and said connected device is a motion detector coupled to a camera, further comprising

activating said motion detector;

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determining when said motion at said location occurs;  
activating said camera; and  
transmitting one or more images from said camera to said GUI via said set-top box.

18. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:  
a graphical user interface (GUI) on a partitioned screen coupled to a set-top box;  
a connected device selected by accessing a menu in said GUI using a remote control unit; and  
a signal sent from said set-top box to said connected device wherein said signal causes said connected device to enter a new state.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18 wherein said new state is an on state.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18 wherein said new state is an off state.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18 wherein said connected device is a light.

22. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein said connected device is a heater or an air conditioner.

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23. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 18 wherein said connected device is a media player, ~~such as a DVD or a VCR.~~

24. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 18 wherein said connected device is an audio player, ~~such as a juke box or a radio.~~

25. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 18 wherein said connected device is a security device, ~~such as a camera or a camera coupled to motion detectors.~~

26. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:  
a graphical user interface (GUI) on a partitioned screen coupled to a set-top box;  
an event defined by accessing said GUI using a remote control unit;  
one or more rules related to said event defined by accessing said GUI;  
wherein said set-top box or a device connected to said set-top box determines if said event has occurred and, wherein said rules are applied to said device with said set-top box, if said event has occurred.

27. (Original) An apparatus comprising:  
a graphical user interface (GUI) on a partitioned screen coupled to a set-top box;  
a layout for a room defined by accessing said GUI;  
a location for a connected device in said layout defined by accessing said GUI;  
and  
an indication in said GUI received at said location in said layout, when a

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connected device changes a state.

28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein said connected device is a light.

29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein said state is an on state.

30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein said state is an off state.

31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein said event is a time, further comprising:

a clock activated in said set-top box; and

a mechanism to determine when said clock reaches said time.

32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein said event is a motion at a location, further comprising

a motion detector configured to be activated when said motion at said location occurs;

said camera configured to be activated in response to said motion detector being activated; and

one or more images from said camera configured to be sent to said GUI via said set-top box when said camera is activated.

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33. (New) The method of claim 9, further comprising customizing the GUI with a room set-up mode.

34. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising customizing the GUI with a room set-up mode.